

First Named Inventor: Schommer, John E. Enclosure (1)
Application Number: 09/901,155
Filing Date: 10 July 2001
Group Art Unit: 3752
Examiner Name: Christopher S. Kim
Title: **WATER CONSERVING AND CLEANING
APPARATUS**

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

1.(currently amended) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus comprising:
means for holding said apparatus,
means for removing particulates from said apparatus,
means for controlling water flow in said apparatus, and
means for directing air flow and creating a Venturi effect in said apparatus, thereby providing a water saving feature and a highly effective cleaning feature.

2.(currently amended) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus comprising:
an essentially straight handle ~~of several feet in length~~,
a hand grip formed around said handle ~~in the vicinity of a proximate to~~
a distal end of said handle,
a straight fixture, said fixture being removably screwed into said hand grip,

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a water flow control lever operably secured to said fixture, and wherein a water hose is typically screwed into said distal end of said handle, and a jet manifold fixedly secured to a proximate end of said handle in an inverted "T" configuration, in approximately a center of said manifold, wherein said jet manifold further comprises a horizontal cylinder fixedly secured to said handle, a forward wing extruded onto said horizontal cylinder, a rear wing extruded onto said cylinder, a plurality of spray nozzles secured into said cylinder at equally spaced intervals, and a plurality of wheels movably secured at left and right ends of said rear wing.

3.(canceled)

4.(currently amended) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus according to ~~claim 3~~ claim 2, wherein said rear wing, extruded to said jet manifold, further comprises a two level cantilevered porch with specifically designed angles and heights to function as a fluid flow director, directing air flow under said water conserving apparatus to provide optimum air flow and a Venturi effect under said water conserving apparatus.

5.(currently amended) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus

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according to ~~claim 3~~, claim 2, wherein said two level cantilevered porch of said rear wing further comprises an upper horizontal porch, wherein said upper porch is an air flow director for air flow flowing underneath said water conserving apparatus, wherein said upper porch is preferably ~~of a length of~~ 1.250 inches, and wherein an angle step is extruded to said upper porch and said angle step is also extruded to a lower porch portion of said cantilevered porch, and wherein said angle step makes an angle θ_2 with the horizontal that is preferably 47 degrees.

6.(currently amended) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus according to ~~claim 3~~, claim 2, wherein said forward wing functions as a fluid flow director by directing an air and water jet stream onto a surface to be cleaned, and wherein said forward wing protects a plurality of spray nozzles, said nozzles being secured underneath said forward wing, and wherein said jet stream requires a minimum of two to three gallons per minute of water because it is combined with an air stream to provide maximum pressure-water pressures from 40-80 pounds per square inch (psi) at a specific target angle to said surface to be cleaned, whereby said jet stream conserves water.

7.(canceled)

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8.(canceled)

9.(currently amended) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus
comprising:

an essentially straight handle ~~of several feet in length,~~

a hand grip formed around said handle ~~in the vicinity of a proximate to~~
a distal end of said handle,

a straight fixture, said fixture being removably screwed into said hand
grip,

a water flow control lever operably secured to said fixture, and
wherein a water hose is typically screwed into said distal end of said handle,
a jet manifold fixedly secured to a proximate end of said handle in an inverted "T"
configuration, in approximately a center of said manifold, wherein said jet
manifold further comprises a horizontal cylinder fixedly secured to said handle,
a forward wing extruded onto said horizontal cylinder, a rear wing extruded onto
said cylinder, a plurality of spray nozzles secured into said cylinder at equally
spaced intervals, and a plurality of wheels movably secured at left and right ends of
said rear wing,

wherein said rear wing, integral to said jet manifold, further comprises a two

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level cantilevered porch with specifically designed angles and heights to function as a fluid flow director, directing air flow under said water conserving apparatus to provide optimum air flow and a Venturi effect under said water conserving apparatus,

wherein said two level cantilevered porch of said rear wing further comprises an upper horizontal porch, wherein said upper porch is an air flow director for air flow flowing underneath said water conserving apparatus, wherein said upper porch

is preferably of a length of 1.250 inches, and wherein an angle step is extruded to said upper porch and said angle step is also extruded to a lower porch portion of said cantilevered porch, and wherein said angle step makes an angle ∂_2 with the horizontal that is preferably 47 degrees.

10.(currently amended) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus according to ~~claim 3~~, claim 2, wherein said handle is fixedly secured to said horizontal cylinder at preferably an a preferred angle ∂_1 from 45 to 50 degrees, and wherein said spray nozzles make an angle ∂_3 to the horizontal, wherein said angle ∂_3 is preferably 30 degrees, and wherein said forward wing makes an angle ∂_4 to the horizontal of preferably 30 degrees, wherein said forward wing is parallel to said spray nozzles, and

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wherein a length L_2 is the dimension underneath said forward wing from a forward edge of said forward wing to a juncture with said cylinder, and
wherein said length L_2 is preferably 1.0 inches, wherein said length L_2 provides the necessary length to function as an effective fluid flow director for said air and water stream, and
wherein said horizontal cylinder is a distance "d" above said surface to be cleaned,
wherein said distance is in a preferred range of 1.75 to 1.85 inches.

11. (currently amended) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said handle is fixedly secured to said horizontal cylinder at a most preferred angle θ_1 of 47 degrees, whereby said angle θ_1 provides maximum comfort to the widest group of adults of virtually any age and height.

12 (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (canceled)

15, (canceled)

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16. (currently amended) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus according to ~~claim 3~~, claim 10 ²⁷⁰ wherein said horizontal cylinder is a distance "d" above said surface to be cleaned, wherein said distance is most preferably 1.8 inches.

17.(canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21.(canceled)

22. (original) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said fixture further comprises a cone-shaped water filter, wherein said filter filters out impurities and particulates, and wherein said filter further comprises an essentially circular base and a cone, wherein said base is formed into an annular ring into which is secured said cone, and wherein said cone is manufactured from metal into a porous screen with a grid size which is approximately twice as small as a nozzle orifice.

23.(original) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus according to

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claim 22, wherein said cone provides a slope down which any particulates slide until contacting said annular ring, whereby, periodically, the user can turn off the water, twist open said hand grip, and shake any particulates off said annular ring, thereby making it virtually impossible for said water conserving apparatus to become clogged.

24. (currently amended) A water conserving and cleaning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said means for holding said apparatus comprises an essentially straight handle ~~of several feet in length~~, and a hand grip formed around said handle ~~in the vicinity of a proximate to a~~ distal end of said handle,

wherein said means for removing particulates from said apparatus comprises

a straight fixture, said fixture being removably screwed into said hand grip, and

a water filter, wherein said filter filters out impurities and particulates, and wherein said filter further comprises an essentially circular base and a cone, wherein said base is formed into an annular ring into which is secured said cone, and wherein said cone is manufactured from metal into a porous screen with a grid

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size which is approximately twice as small as a nozzle orifice,

wherein said cone provides a slope down which any particulates slide until contacting said annular ring, whereby, periodically, the user can turn off the water, twist open said hand grip, and shake any particulates off said annular ring, thereby making is virtually impossible for said water conserving apparatus to become clogged,

wherein said means for controlling water flow in said apparatus comprises a water flow control lever operably secured to said fixture, and

wherein said means for creating a Venturi effect in said apparatus comprises a jet manifold fixedly secured to a proximate end of said handle in an inverted "T" configuration, in approximately a center of said manifold, wherein said jet manifold further comprises

a horizontal cylinder fixedly secured to said handle,

a forward wing extruded onto said horizontal cylinder,

a rear wing extruded onto said cylinder,

a plurality of spray nozzles secured into said cylinder at equally spaced intervals, and

a plurality of wheels movably secured at left and right ends of said rear wing, wherein said rear wing, integral to said jet manifold, further comprises

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a two level cantilevered porch with specifically designed angles and heights to function as a fluid flow director, directing air flow under said water conserving apparatus to provide optimum air flow and a Venturi effect under said water conserving apparatus, ~~thereby providing a water saving feature and highly effective cleaning feature.~~